

**THE RHODE ISLAND CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CONVENTION CENTER COMMITTEE MEETING**

**November 17, 2009**

**A meeting of the Convention Center Committee of the Rhode Island Convention Center Authority (hereinafter referred to as “Authority”, the “CCA” or the “Board”) was held on November 17, 2009, pursuant to notice, at the Rhode Island Convention Center Boardroom, One Sabin Street, Providence, Rhode Island.**

**Board members present were Committee Chairman Jeff Hirsh, Board Chairman David Duffy and Commissioners Bernie Buonanno, Paul MacDonald and Jason Fowler.**

**Also in attendance were Jim McCarvill and Betty Sullivan, RICCA; Tim Muldoon, Deb Tuton, and Nancy Beauchamp, RICC; Larry Lepore and Bon Cappalli, DDC; Steve Habl, VMA; Bruce Leach, Legal Council; Kate Moulding, Local 217 H.E.R.E and Eileen Smith, recording secretary.**

**Mr. Hirsh called the meeting to order at 12:35 pm. Mr. Hirsh sought a motion to approve the minutes of the October meeting. Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Buonanno and seconded by Mr. Fowler it was unanimously**

**VOTED: to approve the minutes of the October meeting.**

Noting that several Commissioners had other engagements and might need to depart early, Mr. Duffy suggested that the minutes of the Dunkin' Donuts Center Committee be approved.

Upon a motion duly made by Mr. MacDonald and seconded by Mr. Hirsh it was unanimously

**VOTED:** to approve the minutes of the October Dunkin' Donuts Committee meeting.

Mr. Hirsh asked Mr. Habl to address the Committee. Mr. Habl reported that the VMA had no heat and that he hoped that it would be repaired by the end of the day. Mr. Habl noted that there were seven events at the VMA. He noted that the ballet had 711 paid admissions for three performances and 938 complimentary tickets. Mr. Duffy asked if there is a possibility that we do not have a ballet market. Mr. Habl said that perhaps we do not. Mr. Habl noted that on the upside, the Nutcracker will return to the VMA next year. He said that the sets have been reconfigured to fit the stage at the theater. Mr. Habl noted that his biggest concern at the moment is lack of attendance. Mr. McCarvill stated that the issue is that events that we have at the moment will not return and that word will spread that we can't attract patrons to the theater. Mr. Duffy thanked Mr. Habl and noted that we will do whatever we can to see that the facility is more successful.

**Mr. Hirsh asked Mr. Muldoon to present the financial report for the Convention Center. Mr. Muldoon reported that October was a good month and came in better than budget. Mr. Muldoon noted that some public shows are downsizing. He said that the Boat Show is smaller which freed up some ballroom space that will be used by Adidas. Mr. Muldoon noted that Re/Max had asked to cancel a meeting last year and that we had an agreement that they would hold a larger event in October. Mr. Muldoon was pleased to report that the event was successful. Mr. Muldoon noted that transient parking remains down as well as hotel parking. Mr. McCarvill asked the history of hotel parking. Mr. Muldoon said that it is flat. Mr. Muldoon reported that a special event rate had been instituted for Black Friday shoppers. He said that a \$4.00 rate would be in place for the weekend. Mr. Muldoon reported that there are fewer Holiday parties booked.**

**Mr. Muldoon presented rent waivers for Committee approval. He said that the waiver is tied to food and beverage. Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Fowler and seconded by Mr. MacDonald it was unanimously**

**VOTED: to recommend approval of a rent waiver for the American Society of Plant Biologists.**

**Mr. Hirsh asked if there were any new business. Hearing none he entertained a motion to adjourn. Upon a motion duly made by Mr.**

**Fowler and seconded by Mr. MacDonald it was unanimously**

**VOTED: to adjourn at 1:13 p.m.**